

# The Javelin

A newsletter of TJ Sargento

August 2013

## **The Challenge:** **One Vision, One Mission**

**And the LORD answered me: "Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it. For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end—it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.**

- Hab 2:2-3

August 21, 2013. I was privileged to share the Word of God to my fellow student missionaries. Before this, I thought very hard what would be the best to share with them. I know that I'm not that experienced in preaching and some of my fellow students are already pastors and studied from different Bible schools. I prayed and asked God what He wanted me to share to them. I was nervous but with the help of God and the guidance of the Holy Spirit I was able to read and ponder on Ephesians 5:1-2 which says, **"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God"**

There are a lot of people claiming that they are a Christian, but do they really know what is the true meaning of being a disciple and follower of Christ? Sad to say, there are a lot of people claiming that they are Christians but failed to see how important following Christ and having a Christ-like character is. As a missionary, I reflected on this and how important a missionary' role in a



**-My Preaching during our midweek service in Language Culture Institute (LCI). LCI is a 6 Month training program for student missionaries to reach the Bible-less, Unreached and Unengaged People Groups (BUUPG) in the world.**

community is and how even a single life of a disciple of God can transform a multitude of people. I want to see that the people that I would reach will become true and genuine disciples of Jesus Christ. I am praying to God to be used mightily in Africa as a cross cultural missionary and to share the love of God to other people

groups. My heart is deeply burdened to reach this people group and as I reviewed my past experiences God gave me different skills and talents that can be used in the mission field such as my teaching ability and computer skills. I remember what I learned from one of our teachers "If we fail to plan, we plan to fail". That's why before I start to go out in the mission field, I decided to plan on what I needed to do focusing on what would be the outcome of the ministry I would be involved in. In relation to that I created my own vision for the mission that would be my driving force and goal in serving God in the field. I would like to share this to everyone so that you could be part of this mission. I do specifically need your support and prayers. My vision for the mission is:

**To transform nations through the love of God by His Son Jesus Christ with**

## My Weekend Ministry

**the leading and guidance of the Holy Spirit, baptizing them and discipling them to be true followers of Christ, teaching them and equipping them to lead also in sharing the gospel to others regardless of culture and nationality.**

I hope that every one of us will have a passion for missions and provide their help and support. Missions is not just the task of the "missionaries" but the whole church. This is a task that God gave to everyone of us.

I believe that studying here in LCI is giving me opportunities to understand God's plan in my life. Through this vision it will be the driving force to further proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ.

Thank you for involving yourself in this mission!!



**The Kids Sunday School**

June 15, 2013. My partner, Mark Avila and I started our weekend ministry at Christian Missionary Alliance Fellowship (CMAF) in Lamut Ifugao. We are assigned to this church for the next four months to study the language and culture of the community and also help in the ministry. I am greatly honored that God gave me the opportunity to be part of the CMAF

family. It was really an adjustment for me and my partner because we both speak Tagalog and the language they use is their mother-tongue and Ilocano. Ilocano is the language of wider communication (LWC) in the northern Philippines.

The first few weeks of our ministry was very challenging. We had to make great adjustment. One of which is to attune to the language of the community which is Ilocano. This is our first hurdle to deal with. As mentioned earlier, Ilocano is the LWC in the highlands and us being Tagalogs from the Katagalogan region is not familiar with it. However, I realized it is not that hard to learn it. I just need to put a lot of effort in learning it. During the testimony time, they all use Ilocano and there are times that I cannot help myself but laugh because of some words used. I thought I understood it but they have a different meaning of it. For instance, one said 'Salamat iti Apo iti inted na nga pigsa.' If you don't understand the language, the word 'pigsa' would give a very different meaning because to us 'pigsa' is 'boil' but in Ilocano it means

'strength or power'. So the above says, 'Thank you Lord for the strength that he gives. I cannot help but smile during some of these occasions but suppress my laughter so as not to offend them.

My involvement in the church includes helping the praise team by playing the beat box. I am also assigned to teach the Sunday School for kids. Teaching is not new to me because I had been teaching English to Korean pupils in La Consolacion College, where I worked before. However, the difference here is that they are all speaking in Ilocano which makes it difficult for me at first but the good thing is that they also understand and speak Tagalog but most of the adults do not. During the first weeks, I translated some stories from Tagalog to Ilocano to also help me learn the language and have a common language with the children. It is really a great learning experience from me. I also learned a lot from our story-telling sessions which I am sure will be helpful in our future cross cultural mission to the Bibleless, Unreached and Un-engaged People Groups

(BUUPGs). My skills in arts also helped because after the story telling, we usually have art activities where I taught them origami and had coloring activities. I believe that God really is working in this ministry and my heart was opened on how important the children's ministry is for they will be the future of the church and will be the future of our nation. It is then imperative for us to teach them and make sure that they will grow in the right path. We must always remember importance of children in the kingdom of God as mentioned in Luke 18:16,

***But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God.***

My weekend ministry with CMAF is really an experience that I will never forget and utilize my time to learn and to be able to be used by God for His glory in this community. It is truly a blessing.

# Prayers and Praises

## **Praises for:**

1. God's continuous provision, guidance, and wisdom for my studies and doing my outreach ministries (weekend ministry).
2. Faithful prayer partners and my supportive local church that is helping me in my needs.
3. The healing of my mother, Constancia C. Sargento. She was hospitalized last August 16 due to hypertension. Glory to God because she was released the following day.

## **Please pray for:**

1. Provision of needs for the CMAF kids drawing contest and success of the activity.
2. Our upcoming two months local deployment (October-November). May God continue to provide for us, prepare us and the people and the location which are the Agta tribe in Palanan, Isabela; the Kalanguya tribe in Nueva Viscaya; and the Ayangan tribe in Ifugao.
3. Further equipping and preparation for me for our upcoming global mission in Africa.
4. Please pray for the Board of Directors of Wycliffe Philippines and partners in making possible the training in the Language and Culture Institute.
5. Faithful stakeholders and prayer partners that will support the mission of God.



Your missionary needs your support, your love, and your prayers. Missionaries are no different in their needs, they just differ in some of their problems. Missionaries want to know that people understand them and they want everyone to know what leads them to do what they do. To truly care for your missionary you need to care about their vision. You need to love Jesus, and to love the people he loves.

Mission is not just the task of the "missionaries" but of the whole church. Your enthusiasm for mission can, and should be, infectious.

From <http://wycliffe.org.uk/wycliffe/connected/member-care-sharevision.html>

**Thank you for your prayers and support. If you would like to share your prayer concerns, give comments and suggestions or would like to help me in any way, please feel free to contact me using any of the ones provided below. God bless you all.**

**Christian Jonathan Sargento**

CP # 09237330953

Email address: [exodus514@yahoo.com](mailto:exodus514@yahoo.com) ; [exodus514@gmail.com](mailto:exodus514@gmail.com)

Snail mail: #104 San Vicente Paombong, Bulacan, Philippines

Here are a few pictures from CMAF and at LCI village living.



**CMAF KIDS IN ACTION**



**Sunday Worship service**



**Turning up the beat with the beat box  
Glory to God**



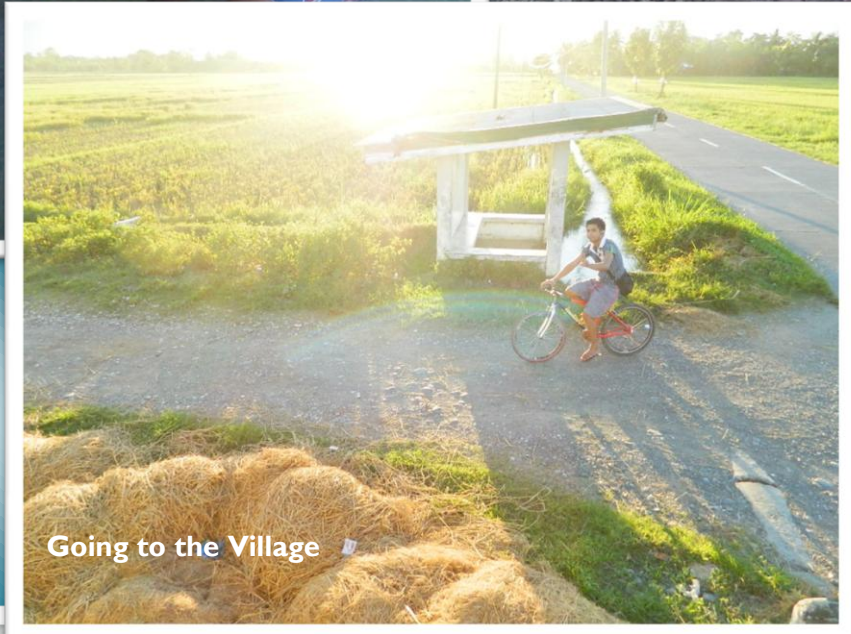
**Art lessons with the kids**



Cooking Adobo Yum Yum Yum



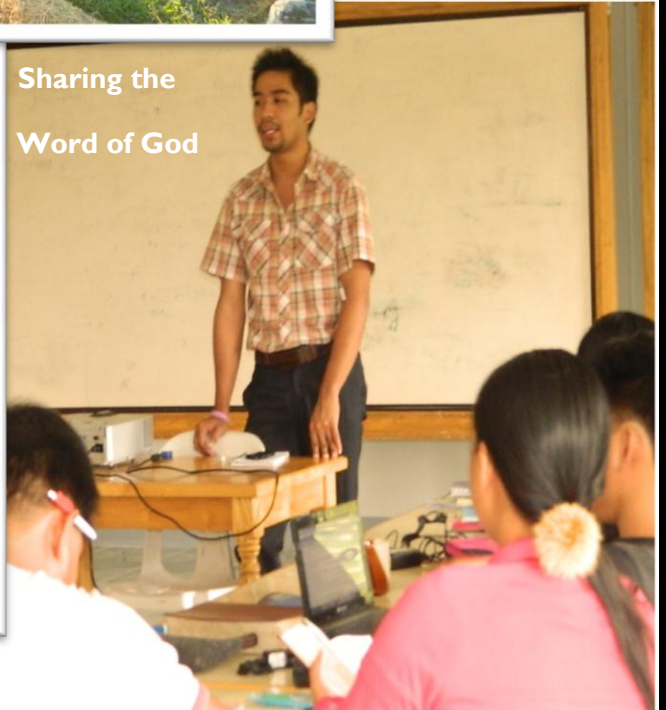
Transplanting the Pechay



Going to the Village



Planting pechay seedlings



Sharing the Word of God